

CHAPTER V

Cesspools, Septic Tanks, Privy-Vaults, Public Sewers and Water Supply

Section 1.

The owner or other person or persons having control of any existing building or buildings hereafter erected or converted into a dwelling to be occupied by one or more families, and where a public sewer is accessible, shall, in a manner and within a period of time satisfactory to the Board of Health, cause such building to be connected with such public sewer.

Section 2.

The owner or other person or persons having control of any existing building or buildings hereafter erected or converted into one or more stores or other places of business, and in which one or more persons of the opposite sex are employed in a store or place of business, shall provide sufficient and separate toilet facilities for each sex, and whenever a public sewer is accessible, shall, in a manner and within a period of time satisfactory to the Board of Health, cause such stores or other places of business to be connected with such public sewer.

Section 3.

No cesspool, septic tank, permanent privy-vault, or other means of subsurface disposal, including additions to existing subsurface sewage disposal systems shall hereafter be constructed or installed in this town until a permit has first been obtained from the Board of Health.

Section 4.

No building permit shall be issued for a dwelling house or building from which sanitary wastes originate on an unsewered street until a permit for a subsurface disposal installation has been obtained from the Board of Health.

Section 5.

All subsurface sewage disposal works (leaching facilities) hereafter constructed or installed shall be of approved material and design and unless otherwise specified by the Board of Health shall be located not less than twenty (20) feet from any dwelling, not less than one hundred (100) feet from any stream, water- course, brook, body of water or wetlands, not less than ten (10) feet from line of any street, court, or passageway, and not less than twenty (20) feet from line of adjoining lot; all measurements being taken from the nearest portion of the sewage disposal works. Leach pits shall be provided with a suitable removable cover. The use of an abandoned well as a cesspool or leach pit is hereby prohibited. Each leach pit shall be not less than six (6) feet in depth, measuring from the lower rim of the inlet pipe, not less than six (6) feet in diameter (inside measurements to point of drawing in), and shall be provided with an iron cover and rim laid in cement. Such cover shall not be more than twelve (12) inches below the finished grade.

The inlet pipe to a Septic Tank shall not be more than eighteen (18) inches below the ground or permanent grade level unless otherwise specified by the Board of Health.

Section 6.

The owner, person or agent responsible for the construction of local subsurface sewage disposal works shall have such construction inspected by the Board of Health or its agent during construction and before such construction is covered, and such covering shall thereafter be applied in a manner approved the Board of Health.

Section 7.

The owner or other person or persons having control of any existing building or buildings shall not increase the number of bedrooms. Construction shall not commence until a permit for alteration or approval of the adequacy of the subsurface sewage disposal system has been obtained from the Board of Health. Occupancy of any such construction shall not take place until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued by the Board of Health.

Section 8.

No permanent privy-vault shall be constructed or maintained on premises which are provided with a public water supply. All permanent privy-vaults, hereafter constructed, shall be of approved material, and shall be fly proof, and unless otherwise specified shall be located not less than twenty (20) feet from any dwelling, not less than thirty (30) feet from line of adjoining lot, and not less than twenty (20) feet from line of any street, court or passageway, all measurements being taken from nearest outer point of vault.

Section 9.

Temporary privy-vaults for the convenience of contractors or their employees may not be erected or installed without a permit from the Board of Health. The vault must be at least two (2) feet in depth and must be so located as to cause no annoyance to persons residing in the vicinity. The owner, contractor or agent shall cause the contents thereof to be treated in a sanitary manner, and immediately upon completion of the contract the contractor shall remove the privy, shall fill in the vault and leave the premises in a condition satisfactory to the Board of Health.

Section 10.

No indoor toilet or water closet, except that which is provided with proper means of flushing with water at time of using, where water is available, shall be hereafter installed on any premises in this town. Where water is not available for flushing, indoor chemical toilets of approved material and construction may be installed under special permit of the Board of Health, if proper provision is made for the final disposal of the contents thereof.

Section 11.

Whenever a water closet, privy-vault, septic tank, cesspool or drain becomes offensive or obstructed, the owner, agent or occupant of the premises shall cause same to be cleaned and made free or otherwise corrected to the satisfaction of the Board of Health.

Section 12.

Every owner, occupant, or agent of premises in which there is any private sewer, drain, privy-vault, septic tank, or cesspool, shall keep the same in a sanitary condition and shall have every privy-vault, septic tank and cesspool emptied and cleaned when necessary or at such times as ordered by the Board of Health. No privy-vault, septic tank or cesspool shall be emptied except by such parties and in such manner as shall be especially authorized by the Board of Health. If the owner or occupant fails to comply with such order, the Board may cause the nuisance, source of filth, or cause of sickness to be removed, and all expenses incurred thereby shall be paid by the person who caused or permitted same, if he has had actual notice from the Board of Health of the existence thereof.

Section 13.

Maximum ground water elevation shall mean the height of the ground water table when it is at its maximum level or elevation. This level is usually reached during the months of March and April. This shall be the period of time acceptable for determining the level for the design of subsurface sewage disposal systems in the Town of Natick.

Section 14.

Four copies of the proposed subsurface sewage disposal system plan shall be submitted to the Board of Health.

A signed statement by the Engineer reporting his basis and calculations for the system design shall be included. This shall include the number of bedrooms and facilities to be installed which will discharge into the subsurface sewage disposal system.

Section 15.

The construction of leaching facilities in fill placed directly on or close to ledge, hardpan, clay, or other impervious material shall not be

permitted. The construction of leaching facilities in clean granular fill shall be permitted in the following instances:

a. Where the impervious material can be excavated to pervious material below (determined by a percolation test) and be replaced with clean fill per Regulation 2.17 of Title 5 of the State Sanitary Code and the underlying naturally occurring pervious strata is at least four feet thick.

b. Where a depth of at least four feet of pervious material (determined by a percolation test) in natural soil can be maintained below the bottom of the

leaching area. In no case will excavation into impervious material be allowed without penetrating into pervious material as in (a) above.

Section 16.

No leaching (pits, galleries, field, chambers, or trenches,) shall be constructed where there is less than four feet of natural occurring pervious soil between the bottom of the proposed leaching facility and the maximum ground water elevation.

Subsurface sewage disposal systems shall not be constructed until all major plumbing has been installed in a dwelling or structure generating sanitary wastes.

Section 17.

There shall be available, a reserve leaching area of at least equal capacity to the original design for a future subsurface sewage disposal system upon which no permanent structure is to be constructed. In the event this area needs to be filled, the area shall be filled and prepared and shall conform to local and state regulations for projected future use. The area between leaching pits, leaching galleries, leach lines or leaching chambers shall not be used as part of the future reserve area.

Section 18.

The site examination shall not be made during any time the ground is covered with snow.

Deep observation holes shall be filled in by the person performing the tests as soon as the required or necessary information has been obtained to prevent accidents to children or animals. In the event additional water table observations shall be required, an acceptable alternative to re-digging the hole shall be the installation of perforated pipe at least 4 inches in diameter, which shall be capped at the top and mounded at the surface level to prevent the introduction of surface water.

Section 19.

Percolation tests shall not be accepted if performed in the months of June, July, August, or September.

Area requirements for all subsurface sewage disposal design shall be increased by 50 percent for all new construction in the event that garbage grinders are to be later installed against Board of Health recommendations.

Section 20.

The building sewer from the building to the septic tank shall be constructed of cast iron pipe only and all pipe joints of the building sewer from septic tank to distribution box shall be lead jointed and shall be made watertight and protected against damage by roots. Poured type joints shall be properly wiped on the inside to prevent any obstruction of flow.

Section 21.

All septic tanks installed employing leaching trenches as part of the subsurface sewage disposal system shall connect to a distribution box. There shall be a minimum of one-hundred and fifty (150) linear feet of pipe, and such additional length as indicated by the percolation tests. There shall be a minimum of four-hundred and fifty (450) square feet of leaching area, and such additional area as indicated by the percolation tests. The pipes installed in the trenches shall be of four (4) inch diameter vitrified clay bell and spigot. The pipe shall be laid in a twelve (12) inch minimum layer of washed crushed or washed gravel stone (1-1/4 to 1-3/4 inches in size), free of fines, iron or dust. The crown of pipe shall be covered with four (4) inches of the same size

stone, and shall then be covered with at least a two (2) inch layer of washed crushed stone ranging from 1/8 to 1/2 inch in size, free of iron, fines and dust. Leach trenches shall be at least six (6) feet apart (minimum distance between walls of adjacent trenches). No leaching line shall be over one-hundred (100) feet in length. Step down trenches shall not be allowed.

Section 22.

Prior to any preliminary on site inspection for the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system, an application shall be filed in duplicate and shall be on such form and in such detail as the Board of Health shall prescribe. The applicant shall also submit, the following plans in three (3) copies by a qualified civil or sanitary engineer to conform to existing zoning with the following information:

(a) A Drawing to scale (1"=10'; 1"=20'; 1"=30', as the situation may warrant) indicated dimensions of the building and building lot showing placement of the proposed building, individual subsurface sewage disposal system, an additional area for 100% expansion of the disposal area, driveway, well site, if applicable, and water service. The location of all drains, wells and subsurface sewage disposal systems on adjacent lots, if applicable, and any type of construction which may be pertinent for placement and design of a proper subsurface sewage disposal system. The location of any water courses, including streams, brooks, ponds, swamps, marsh or other wetlands. The precise locations of all manholes, catchbasins, cleanout drain plugs, drains or known sources of water supply within 200 feet of the proposed sewage disposal system shall also be included.

(b) A bench mark and a datum plane notation shall be shown on the plan within the lot. The plan shall show the location and results of four or more stabilized percolation rate tests for the lot taken during the months of March or April. Two or more tests shall be made in separate test holes spaced uniformly over the proposed leaching area at the depth of the proposed system. One or more shall be conducted in the center of the designated expansion area. One or more at four (4) feet below the bottom of the proposed and future leaching area to determine soil permeability. Percolation tests shall be performed as prescribed in Title 5 of the State Environmental Code. All tests shall be witnessed and recorded by the Board of Health or its authorized representative after a plan is submitted to the Board of Health for review with this information. At least ten days notice

shall be given to the Board of Health prior to the excavation and the performance of these tests. No percolation tests shall be observed by the Board of Health during the months of June through September. The determination of Maximum Water Table elevations shall be made March through April, except when an adjusted determination is made at the discretion of the Natick Board of Health.

(c) The results of the soil logs, soil classification and maximum water table elevations encountered in four or more test pits which shall be dug to a depth of five (5) feet below the bottom of the leaching area. The location of these pits shall be shown on the plan. Two or more test pits shall be within the limits of the proposed system, two or more in the designated expansion area, plus any others which may be designated by the witness for the Board of Health at the time of the site inspection.

The pits shall be adequately protected by the person performing these tests with a substantial temporary cover or fence to prevent accidents to both humans and animals when left open and unattended. The pits shall not be filled in until they have been inspected by the Board of Health. After the tests are completed and all data has been recorded, the test holes and pits shall be immediately refilled.

(d) Elevations of existing and proposed contours at ten (10) foot intervals, bottom of leach lines or pits, ledge, hardpan, till, or any watercourses. Streams, ponds, swamps, marsh or other wetlands (as defined in Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any surface or subsurface drains shall also be included.

(e) Invert elevations of the house sewer, inlet and outlet pipes of septic tank, inlet and outlet pipes of distribution box, elevation of the trench bottom (base of stone), beginning and end of pipes in the trenches, and proposed elevations of the system in the expansion area.

Section 23.

The computation of the average daily flow shall be based on water use of 75 gallons per capita per day. The number of people housed shall be based on two persons per bedroom.

Section 24.

The final grade over the disposal area shall not be more than two (2) feet and not less than twelve (12) inches from the top of the stone forming the distribution lines in the leaching field or from the inlet pipe of seepage pits unless waived by the Board of Health because of conditions peculiar to a location.

Section 25

Sanitary waste originating from any house, building or structure which has to be ejected into a public sewer system shall be accomplished by the proper installation of ejector pumps.

There shall be a total of two (2) ejector pumps: one shall serve as an auxiliary or stand-by in the event the initial pump malfunctions. A house alarm system shall also be installed which will go into alarm when a malfunction in the pump system occurs.

Section 26

All septic tanks installed shall be constructed of reinforced water-tight concrete with a compression strength of 3000 lbs. per sq. inch, and shall have an effective liquid capacity of two-hundred (200) percent of the estimated average daily sewage flow, but in no case shall be less than fifteen-hundred (1500) gallons. Any other material shall be subject to the express approval of the Board of Health. Garbage grinders are not recommended.

Section 27.

Interceptor drains may be allowed to rehabilitate a system that has failed or to give additional protection to a new system. Interceptor drains shall not be accepted as a method to lower the water table to enable a subsurface disposal system to be constructed, unless they are installed with no less than two (2) monitor wells which have been in place one year prior to the approval and installation of the disposal system. There shall be no less than three (3) inspections conducted in three separate months during the period from December 15 to April 15 of that year. Measurements of the

water levels in each monitor well shall be observed by the Board of Health and the design engineer and shall be so recorded.

Section 28.

A well permit from the Board of Health shall be required for the development of a suitable source of water supply prior to the start of any construction on a building or buildings intended for human occupancy where water will be used, if in the opinion of the Board of Health connection to a public water supply is not possible or feasible. A sustained pumping rate of three and one-half (3 1/2) gallons per minute for four (4) hours shall be the minimum rate after the well has been pumped to waste, if possible.

Section 29.

No new building or structure or any other type of construction or alteration shall be started on any portion of land within a four hundred (400) foot radius of any existing gravel packed well or a newly proposed gravel packed well which is to be used as a public water supply unless approval is first obtained by the Natick Board of Health and the State Department of Public Health.

Section 30.

A public water supply shall mean any water supply which has at least fifteen (15) services or serves twenty-five (25) persons or more daily for at least sixty (60) days each year.

Section 31.

No part of a subsurface sewage disposal system shall be nearer than 125 feet to a private well, 250 feet to a tubular well with a diameter of 2 1/2 inches or less which is to be used for a public water supply and 250 feet to a dug well with a diameter of 4 feet or less which is to be used for a public water supply.

Section 31.1

Private wells for drinking water shall not be allowed where a public water supply is available in sufficient quantity and pressure so as to meet U.S. and Massachusetts safe drinking water standards.

Section 31.2

Private wells for drinking water shall not be allowed in any case in an area bounded by North Main Street, Lake Cochituate, West Central Street, and the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Section 31.3

Installation of wells for irrigation or industrial purposes must be performed by a Massachusetts registered well driller, after first obtaining a permit from the Board of Health. The fee for such permit shall be \$100.00.

Section 31.4

No pipe or conduit shall transport water from an irrigation well into a building which is served by the public water system of the Town of Natick. Irrigation well water piping may not be brought through any wall or foundation of any building that is connected to the Natick public water system.

Section 32.

There shall be a separate private well for each house and it shall be a drilled well.

(a) A drilled well shall not be used for a public water supply.

(b) All wells shall be constructed on the uphill side of subsurface sewage disposal systems.

Section 33.

So far as the Board of Health may provide, each section of these rules and regulations shall be construed as separate to the end that if any section, sentence, clause, or phrase shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of the rules and regulations shall continue in full force.

BOARD OF HEALTH
Natick, Mass.

Richard N. Abbott, M.D.
Chairman

John E. Goodman, D.M.D.

James J. Mulligan, D.M.D.

Public Hearing - October
15, 1979 - Natick Bulletin
Adopted October 22, 1979

Published - Natick Bulletin
October 31, 1979

TOWN OF NATICK

The Board of Health of the Town of Natick, acting under authority of Chapter 111 Section 31 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Ter.Ed.) and every other act thereto enabling, have in the interest of and for the preservation of the public health, hereby prescribes and establishes the following Rules and Regulations relative to Cesspools, Septic Tanks, Privy Vaults, Public Sewers and Water Supply, which shall remain in force until further ordered and which may be amended or added to hereafter from time to time. Notice to all persons deemed interested was made by paid advertisement in the Natick Bulletin October 10, 1979. A public hearing as announced in said notice was held at the office of the Board of Health, Natick, at 8:00 p.m. on October 15, 1979.

Board of Health
Natick, Mass.

Richard N. Abbott, M.D.

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James J. Mulligan, D.M.D.

Adopted October 22, 1979

Published - Natick Bulletin
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Section 34. Penalty.

(a) Criminal Complaint - Whoever violates any provision of these rules and regulations may be penalized by indictment or on complaint brought in the District Court. Except as may otherwise be provided by law, and as the District Court may see fit to impose, the maximum penalty for any violation of these provisions shall be \$300.00 for each offense.

(b) Non-Criminal Disposition - Whoever violates any provision of these rules and regulations may, in the discretion of the Health Agent, be penalized by a non-criminal complaint in the District Court pursuant to the provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D. For the purpose of this provision the penalty to apply in the event of a violation shall be as follows: \$50.00 for the first offense; \$100.00 for the second offense; \$200.00 for the third offense; and \$300.00 for the fourth and each subsequent offense. Each day on which a violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

Amended February 12, 2002
Summary published March 29, 2002

Sections 31.1 through 31.3 adopted February 8, 1999

Section 31.4 adopted June 3, 2002

BOARD OF HEALTH

Natick, Mass.

Chairman

Peter A. Delli Colli, D.M.D.,

Chairman.

Donald J. Breda, P.E., Vice

Michael D. Bliss, J.D., Clerk